



## Teacher License Reciprocity

Does the state require out-of-state teachers to take additional coursework?

June 2020

Thirty-one states require that some or all out-of-state teacher candidates take additional coursework or training prior to entering a classroom, or within a certain number of years of teaching. Of these states, nine states provide a test-out or other exemption option for coursework requirements. View the full 50-State Comparison: Teacher License Reciprocity [here](#).

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| <a href="#">STATE</a><br>↑ | <a href="#">Does the state require out-of-state teachers to take additional coursework?</a>  | <a href="#">Does the state provide a test-out or other exemption option for coursework requirements?</a>   | <a href="#">Source</a>   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Alabama                    | No.  | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.  | Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-2-.20<br><a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Alaska                     | Yes, but not immediately. Candidates must complete coursework in Alaska studies Alaska multicultural education or cross-cultural communications in order to extend an initial out-of-state certificate for a third year or to qualify for a teacher professional certificate. However, the commissioner may issue a provisional certificate, valid for no longer than two years, to an applicant who has not completed the semester hours required at the time of application. Additional coursework and training requirements may be required for candidates to apply for a professional license. | No.  | Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.20.020<br>Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.20.015<br>Alaska Admin. Code tit. 4, § 12.305<br>Alaska Admin. Code tit. 4, § 12.397 |
| Arizona                    | Yes, but not immediately. Out-of-state teachers are required to take an "Arizona Constitution" college course and a "U.S. Constitution" college course within three years of achieving state certification, or within one year if they are teaching an academic course on History, Government, Social Studies, Citizenship, Law or Civics.   | Yes. Out-of-state teachers may take an exam on the provisions and principles of the Arizona Constitution the U.S. Constitution instead of the required courses. Candidates must take the exam within three years, or within one year if they are teaching an academic course on History, Government, Social Studies, Citizenship, Law or Civics. | Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-532   |
| Arkansas                   | Yes, but not immediately and not for all candidates. Candidates for certification in certain areas must take a course in Arkansas History to obtain a standard license. Candidates may receive a provisional license if all other requirements for licensure are met except the Arkansas History course.   | No.  | Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-418<br><a href="#">Source</a>  |
| California                 | Yes. In order to receive a standard teaching credential, out-of-state candidates must meet the subject matter knowledge requirements for their credential area, including possible coursework requirements. Applicants must also meet state requirements for teaching English learners, which includes completing 6 semester hours of coursework in a second language and coursework in human relations.   | No. Except that a teacher who can present a valid out-of-state credential or certificate that authorizes the instruction of English language learners may qualify as having met the requirements for teaching English learners by submitting an application and fee to the commission.   | Cal. Educ. Code § 44274.2<br>Cal. Educ. Code § 44253.3   |
| Colorado                   | No.  | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.  |  |

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| Connecticut          | Yes, but not for all candidates. Out-of-state applicants who do not meet the conditions of the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement must demonstrate successful completion of all required general academic and professional education coursework for the endorsement areas sought.   | Yes. Under the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement, to waive specific coursework requirements, Connecticut may accept completion of a state-approved educator preparation program or a minimum of 30 months of recent teaching experience appropriate to the subject area being requested. Candidates for shortage area positions who meet a “satisfactory score” on subject area assessments may waive coursework in that subject area. An advanced degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university may be accepted in lieu of a bachelor’s degree. | Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-145b<br>Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-146c<br><a href="#">Source 1</a><br><a href="#">Source 2</a><br><a href="#">Source 3</a> |
| Delaware             | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.  |  |
| District of Columbia | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.  |  |
| Florida              | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.  |  |
| Georgia              | Yes, but not for all candidates and not immediately. Georgia requires all applicants to complete a course on the identification and education of children who have special educational needs. Candidates may qualify for an Induction or Professional certificate prior to completing the coursework requirement, however, the necessary coursework must be satisfied to renew or convert the certificate.  | Yes. If an out-of-state candidate took a comparable course during their teacher preparation program, he or she can submit the course information and may be eligible to have this requirement waived. Educators with a valid National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification or out-of-state educators with a valid out-of-state certificate and five years of education experience may be eligible to be exempt from specified coursework requirements.  | Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 505-2-.24<br><a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Hawaii               | No. Although candidates who do not meet the experience requirements or who have completed an educator preparation program but who do not hold a license in another state must meet content knowledge requirements to receive a Provisional or Standard License. They can demonstrate content knowledge by submitting proof of completing sufficient and relevant coursework at an institution for higher education.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.  | <a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Idaho                | Yes, but not immediately. Out-of-state candidates working on an Idaho interim certificate in certain endorsement areas may be required to take the “Mathematical Thinking for Instruction” or an approved alternative course as well as an approved “Idaho Comprehensive Literacy” course or approved equivalent before receiving a Standard Instructional Certificate. Out-of-state candidates are granted a three-year, nonrenewable Interim Certificate in order to complete these requirements. Applicants might also be required to take technology courses, subject to the discretion of the hiring district. | Yes. Candidates may take the Idaho Comprehensive Literacy assessment instead of the course.  | Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.02.016<br>Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.02.017.03<br>Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.02.018.03                                      |
| Illinois             | Yes, but not for all candidates. Only candidates without a valid, comparable out-of-state license must complete (or show proof of having already completed) coursework aligned to standards concerning methods of instruction of the exceptional child, methods of reading and reading in the content area, and instructional strategies for English learners. Candidates must also have completed student teaching, or an equivalent experience.   | No. However, candidates may show proof of completing coursework aligned to standards concerning methods of instruction of the exceptional child, methods of reading and reading in the content area, and instructional strategies for English learners. The Illinois State Board of Education provides a list of pre-approved comparable courses from out-of-state institutions.   | 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/21B-35<br><a href="#">Source 1</a><br><a href="#">Source 2</a>   |
| Indiana              | Yes, but not for all candidates and not always immediately. Licensure reciprocity is not available through testing alone for candidates in several content areas. Licensure deficiencies in those areas are determined and communicated by licensing credential evaluators and could require additional coursework. In addition, within one year of receiving an Indiana license, out-of-state teachers must receive valid certification in Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, Heimlich Maneuver, and the use of an automated external defibrillator and complete Suicide Prevention Training.                          | No.  | Ind. Code Ann. § 20-28-5-18<br>Ind. Code Ann. § 20-28-5-19<br><a href="#">Source</a>   |

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| Iowa              | Yes, but not for all candidates and not immediately. The Iowa Board of Educational Examiners conducts a transcript review. A two-year “Regional Exchange License” is issued to out-of-state applicants who are eligible for licensure but have coursework deficiencies in order to fully meet Iowa’s requirements.  | No.  | <a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Kansas            | No. Except that to receive a teaching license, out-of-state candidates must have one year of teaching experience or eight semester credit hours completed within the last six years. Candidates not meeting licensure requirements may be eligible for a two-year exchange license, a one-year nonrenewable license if hired by a Kansas district, or a substitute license.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.  | Kan. Admin. Regs. 91-1-204<br><a href="#">Source</a>                     |
| Kentucky          | Yes, but not for all candidates and not always immediately. Cases are evaluated on an individual basis. If out-of-state candidates do not meet specified requirements, they might be subject to additional coursework. In addition, out-of-state candidates teaching under certain licenses are required to complete either a three hour content literacy course taught by qualified faculty aligned to certain standards or two or more courses taught by qualified faculty aligned to the standards.  | No.  | 16 KAR 4:030   |
| Louisiana         | Yes, but not for all candidates. Candidates who have not taught as a regular teacher within the past five years in an elementary or secondary school are required to complete six semester credits relating to the teaching field from a regionally accredited college/university. Candidates may be issued a one year non-renewable certificate while he/she completes the credit hours required for the issuance of a three-year nonrenewable teaching certificate (“Out of State Certificate”).  | No.  | <a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Maine             | Yes, but not for all candidates. If deficiencies are found on the required transcript analysis, additional coursework may be required.  | Yes. Candidates can substitute passing scores (60 or above) on College Level Examination Program tests for up to six semester hours of course requirements.  | Code Me. R. tit. 05-071 Ch. 115, Pt. I., § 6<br><a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Maryland          | Yes, but not for all candidates. Out-of-state candidates who do not meet experience requirements or who are unable to enter via an approved out-of-state program are subject to a transcript analysis. If deficiencies are found on the required transcript analysis, additional coursework may be required. In addition, candidates with certain certifications are required to complete a specified number of semester hours in reading by the renewal of the certification unless the candidate has already completed the required coursework. | Yes, but not for all candidates. Applicants with certain certifications may be able to test out of the credits of reading required at renewal by meeting the qualifying score on the Praxis Teaching Reading: Elementary assessment. | <a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Massachusetts     | Yes, but not for all candidates and not always immediately. Core academic teachers must take a Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) course and obtain and SEI endorsement. Candidates with at least three years of employment under a valid out-of-state license or certificate may be eligible for a Temporary License while he/she completes the coursework requirement. The Temporary License is not available to candidates who fail any of the required state licensure tests.  | No.  | 603 Mass. Code Regs. 7.05<br>603 Mass. Code Regs. 7.04                   |
| Michigan          | No.   | No. Except that the CPR course requirement is waived for individuals who have physical limitations making it impracticable to complete the instruction and obtain the required certification.  | Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 380.1531d<br><a href="#">Source</a>              |
| Minnesota         | Yes, but not for all candidates. Candidates with a regionally-accredited bachelor's degree with field-specific student teaching equivalent to requirements of Minnesota programs may qualify for a Minnesota teacher license under the tiered licensure structure if they meet the additional requirements for the appropriate tier of license.   | No.  | M.S.A. § 122A.23<br><a href="#">Source 1</a><br><a href="#">Source 2</a> |

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| Mississippi       | No.  | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.   |   |
| Missouri          | No.  | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.   | <a href="#">Source</a>  |
| Montana           | Yes. Applicants must verify completion of the online course "An Introduction to Indian Education for All in Montana". Applicants for a Standard or Professional certificate whose degree is more than five years old and who do not have a current out-of-state license must have earned six semester credits from a regionally accredited college or university within the five-year period preceding the effective date of the license.  | No.   | Mont. Admin. R. 10.57.410<br>Mont. Admin. R. 10.57.411<br>Mont. Admin. R. 10.57.424   |
| Nebraska          | Yes, but not immediately. Nebraska requires all candidates to submit evidence of special education and human relations training, which includes coursework or relevant employment experience. In addition, candidates must meet recency requirements by documenting recent college credits or employment experience within the past five years to receive an Initial, Standard or Professional License. Candidates may be eligible to receive a Provisional or Conditional License while working towards meeting training or recency requirements.   | Yes. Candidates can document relevant employment experience in place of the training requirements.  | 92 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 21, 005<br><a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Nevada            | Yes, but not for all candidates and not immediately. Out-of-state candidates must complete all courses of study and other requirements for a license in the state, but may be eligible to teach under a provisional license for up to three years while completing any remaining requirements.   | No.   | Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 391.032<br>Nev. Admin. Code 391.056  |
| New Hampshire     | No.  | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.   |   |
| New Jersey        | No.  | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.   | <a href="#">Source</a>  |
| New Mexico        | No.  | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.   |   |
| New York          | Yes. Out-of-state candidates must complete training related to child abuse identification/reporting, school violence prevention/intervention, and harassment, bullying and discrimination prevention/intervention from a New York State Education Department approved provider.  | No.   | N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 8, § 80-5.8  |
| North Carolina    | Yes, but not for all candidates and not immediately. Candidates with three or more years of experience applying for the Elementary Education or Exceptional Children license must submit evidence of passing the North Carolina Department of Instruction's Reading Research to Classroom Practice and Mathematics Foundations courses to convert their Initial Professional License to a Continuing Professional License if their state's exam did not include reading and mathematics subtests.  | Yes. Out-of-state applicants with three or more years of teaching experience have the option to pass the NCSBE-approved licensure exams to fulfill the requirements for a Continuing Professional License, including the approved reading exam and mathematics subtest. | 16 N.C. Admin. Code 6C.0316<br>16 N.C. Admin. Code 6C.0318  |
| North Dakota      | Yes, but not for all applicants and not immediately. If deficiencies are found on the required transcript analysis, additional coursework may be required. North Dakota requires coursework in Native American studies, cultural diversity, strategies for creating learning environments that contribute to positive human relationships and strategies for teaching and assessing diverse learners. Applicants who have not met coursework requirements can teach under an Out-of-State Reciprocal License, but must meet coursework requirements to be eligible for an Initial License. A two-year re-entry license will be given to an out-of-state applicant who has not taught in 5 years or who cannot submit six semester hours of credit taken during each of the past two five-year periods and may require additional coursework. | No.   | N.D. Admin. Code 67.1-02-02-07<br>N.D. Admin. Code 67.1-02-06-01<br>N.D. Admin Code 67.1-02-02-02<br>N.D. Admin. Code 67.1-02-02-09<br>N.D. Admin. Code 67.1-02-02-04 |

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| Ohio                       | Yes, but not for all candidates and not immediately. Out-of-state candidates requesting licensure in certain areas must have successfully completed coursework in the teaching of reading and phonics. Candidates who have completed at least half of the required coursework may be granted a Standard Teaching License with a limitation that requires candidates to complete the requirement in order to renew or advance the license. | No.  | <a href="#">Source</a><br>Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3319.24  |
| Oklahoma                   | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.                                |  |
| Oregon                     | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.                                |  |
| Pennsylvania               | Yes, but not for all candidates. The Department will prescribe additional educational requirements if an evaluation by the Department reveals minor deficiencies in the candidate's preparation and experience.   | No.  | 22 Pa. Code § 49.171   |
| Rhode Island               | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.                                |  |
| South Carolina             | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.                                | S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-51   |
| South Dakota               | Yes. All candidates must complete a three-credit South Dakota Indian Studies course and one clock hour of suicide awareness and prevention training. Applicants may receive a one-year provisional certificate if they have not passed South Dakota Indian Studies.   | No.  | <a href="#">Source 1</a><br><a href="#">Source 2</a><br>S.D. Admin. R. 24:28:16:03<br>S.D. Admin. R. 24:28:16:04 |
| Tennessee                  | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.                                |  |
| Texas                      | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.                                |  |
| Utah                       | Yes. All out-of-state applicants must complete an Educator Ethics Review online.  | No.  | <a href="#">Source</a>   |
| Vermont                    | Yes, but not for all candidates. Applicants with a time lapse of ten years or more between the time of recommendation for licensure and application for licensure must meet requirements for updated knowledge and skills as established by Standards Board policy. Applicants who apply from a non-NASDTEC state are subject to transcript review to establish whether the applicant meets coursework or other requirements.             | No.  | 7-1 Vt. Code R. § 13   |
| Virginia                   | Yes. Out-of-state candidates seeking Initial Licensure must complete training in 1) child abuse and neglect; 2) emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs); 3) and dyslexia awareness.   | No.  | <a href="#">Source</a><br>8 Va. Admin. Code 20-23-40   |
| Washington                 | Yes, but not immediately. Out-of-state applicants seeking a Professional Certificate must complete coursework in issues of abuse.   | No.  | Wash. Admin. Code 181-79A-257<br><a href="#">Source</a>  |
| West Virginia              | No.   | N/A. The state does not have additional coursework requirements in place.                                |  |

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Wisconsin

Yes, but not for all candidates. Out-of-state candidates must have taken coursework related to minority group relations, including instruction in the history, culture and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in Wisconsin. Within twelve months of receiving initial licensure, candidates must also demonstrate competencies related to conflict resolution and crisis management, including training in the use of peer mediation to resolve conflict. Candidates applying for licenses to teach certain subjects may be required to complete additional coursework. Out-of-state applicants who hold a valid license in another state are eligible for a provisional Tier II license through the License Based on Reciprocity Pathway without having to complete additional coursework.

No.

Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.19

Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.193

Wyoming

Yes. Out-of-state candidates must either complete a course or pass an examination on the constitutions of the United States and the state of Wyoming.

Yes. To demonstrate knowledge of the United States and Wyoming Constitutions, candidates can submit evidence of passing a satisfactory examination on the provisions and principles of the constitutions of the United States and the State of Wyoming.

Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-7-304